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DATE: July 19, 2011

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians
Tribal Historic Preservation Office
P.O. Box 455
Cherokee, NC 28719

Ph: 828-554-6852 Fax 828-488-2462

TO: Surface Transportation Board

Attn: Rachel D. Campbell

395 E. Street, SW

Washington, DC 20423-0001

AB-290 (Sub-No. 310X)

PROJECT(s): Comments regarding Norfolk Southern Railway Company-Abandonment Exemption, Floyd and Polk Counties, GA.

The Tribal Historic Preservation Office of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians (EBCI THPO) would like to thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposed section 106 activity under §36 C.F.R. 800.

It is the opinion of the EBCI THPO that the proposed undertaking will not result in any new ground disturbing activities which might adversely affect any sites eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places. As such, the EBCI THPO believes that the proposed project may proceed as planned. In the event that project plans change, or cultural resources or human remains are discovered, all work should cease, and this office should be contacted to continue government to government consultation as defined under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended.

If we can be of further service, or if you have any comments or questions, please feel free to contact me at (828) 554-6852.

Sincerely,

Tyler B. Howe

Tribal Historical Preservation Specialist

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

Office of Proceedings

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Public Recon